Northwest History Consortium

The Great Depression

Darrick Hayman 11th Grade

National Standard

Era 8: The Great Depression and World War II (1929-1945) / Standard 1

Standard 1: The causes of the Great Depression and how it affected American society.

OBJECTIVE

Students will be placed in a modern day scenario in which they will plan a trip that will mirror the migration of those escaping the Dust Bowl in the 1930s. The purpose is to understand the social impact of the Great Depression. Students will be required to purchase a car, supplies, create a map, and deal with a "curve ball" during their trip in order to reach their destination in the time given. Please note: some students, like those in the 1930s may not reach their destination because of the "curve ball." This does not constitute failure.

SCENARIO

A dust bowl has hit Lake Stevens, and you are required to find another job and move your home somewhere across the country. You have specific resources in order to get to your new home, and you must get to your destination in the specified time.

Create a travel plan on a tri-fold board that shows a map, resources, car information (price, mpg, etc.), and food plan to be presented. Halfway through this planning process you will be given a "curve ball" to overcome. Be ready for this! Plans should be creative but realistic. Use the resources to investigate how possible it is that the US could have another Dust Bowl, as well as investigate how Americans survived the Dust Bowl and the migration to other cities in order to survive.

TASK

Task-Group 1

You are a single individual traveling to Boston for a new start. You have \$2000 to purchase a car that will get you to your destination. You must travel by car to Boston. You have \$500 cash to buy groceries, gas, and other incidentals needed along the trip. You have four days to get to your destination.

Curve Ball

You have hit a deer 10 miles east of St. Cloud, MN. Your car is totaled. What do you do now?

Task-Group 2

You are a married couple traveling to Dallas, Texas for a new start. You have \$2000 to purchase a car that will get you to your destination. You must travel by car to Dallas. You have \$700 cash to buy groceries, gas, and other incidentals needed along the trip. You have four days to get to your destination.

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Curve Ball

One of you has been arrested for vagrancy in Wichita, KS. What do you do next?

Task-Group 3

You are married with two children (ages 4 & 10), and you are moving to Denver for a new start. You have \$1500 to purchase a car that will get you to your destination. You must travel by car to Denver. You have \$600 cash to buy groceries, gas, and other incidentals needed along the trip. You have five days to get to your destination.

Curve Ball

You have blown a head gasket in Salt Lake City, UT. What do you do?

Task-Group 4

You are married with two children (ages 4 & 10) and one set of grandparents, and you are moving to Los Angeles for a new start. You have \$1500 to purchase a car that will get you to your destination. You must travel by car to L.A. You have \$750 cash to buy groceries, gas, and other incidentals needed along the trip. You have four days to get to your destination.

Curve Ball

Grandma died in Crescent City, CA. What do you do?

RESOURCES

Book

Steinbeck, John. Grapes of Wrath. New York, NY: Viking Press, 1939.

Internet

- "Are We Running Out of Water?: Another Dust Bowl?" from *Reader's Digest*, May 2008.

 <u>Reader's Digest.com (rd.com)</u>. ©2010. New York, NY. 24 April 2010

 http://www.rd.com/your-america-inspiring-people-and-stories/americas-water-shortage-crisis/article55731-1.html>.
- <u>Craigslist.</u> San Francisco, CA. 1995 2010. 24 April 2010 http://www.craigslist.org/about/sites.
- "Farming in the 1930s: Okies." Wessels Living History Farm. 2010. York, NE. 24 April 2010 http://www.livinghistoryfarm.org/farminginthe30s/water_06.html. Watch interviews if Florence Thompson and Delbert and Alvin Aptez.
- "Shortage Bring Threats of a Second Dust Bowl." 12 April 2010. <u>earth news (earthportal.org)</u>. 2010. Washington, DC. 24 April 2010 http://www.earthportal.org/news/?p=3280>.

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ASSESSMENT

Evaluation

Students will present their travel plans and how they tried to overcome their "curve ball."

Students are graded on completion of the plan as well as how realistic their plans were.

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

"History Standards for Grades 5-12 United States." <u>UCLA National Center for History in the Schools.</u> 2005. Los Angeles, CA. 6 April 2010 http://nchs.ucla.edu/standards/us-standards5-12.html>.

Hayman, Darrick. "The Great Depression." NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 12 July 2009 NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes of the property of the